



Our Ref.: 410.015

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Patrick MIDOUX et al
Serial No.: 09/297,519
Filed: May 3, 1999
For: NOVEL...CELL MEMBRANES

600 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10016
Dated: July 23, 1999

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 20, line 2, change "2" to --23--.

Claim 21, line 3, change "6" to --26--.

Cancel claims 1 to 19 and add the following claims.

--22. A complex comprised of at least one negatively charged nucleic acid and at least one positively charged polymeric conjugate with the bond therebetween being electrostatic in nature, the polymeric conjugate containing a polymer formed from monomers having free NH_3^+ groups, at least 10% of which are substituted by residues which can be protonated in a weakly acid

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